

Dear Padre,

Mark 1:15 quotes Jesus as saying, “Repent, and believe in the gospel.” Since the Gospels hadn’t been written yet, what was he referring to?

These days when we say the word *gospel*, we tend to be talking about one of the four written Gospels of the New Testament: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. But the word *gospel* wasn’t originally tied to any particular written form of communication. In fact, the Greek word we translate to *gospel*—*evangelion*—simply means “good news.”

When Jesus says, “Repent and believe in the gospel,” he is basically saying, “Repent and believe in the good news.” For Jesus, the nature of that good news is clear: Jesus is announcing the coming of God’s kingdom, the initiation of the fullness of God’s reign on earth. Jesus preaches this good news in word and action and makes it real through his life, death, and resurrection.

After Jesus’ resurrection and ascension, many of his followers were inspired by the Holy Spirit to go into the world and continue Christ’s gospel proclamation. The apostles and disciples did this by word of mouth at first, but within a few decades they decided to commit the message of Christ’s good news to writing, giving us the Gospel books we know today.

Fr. Matthew Allman, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM Pope Francis

In these, our troubled times, rent by the tragedies of war and menaced by the baneful tendency to accentuate differences and to incite conflict, may the Good News that in Jesus forgiveness triumphs over sin, life defeats death, and love conquers fear, be proclaimed to the world with renewed fervor.

LETTER RECOGNIZING MISSIONARY WORK, OCTOBER 22, 2017



Calendar

Monday

JANUARY 25
Conversion of
St. Paul the Apostle
Acts 22:3-16 or
Acts 9:1-22
Mk 16:15-18

Tuesday

JANUARY 26
Sts. Timothy and Titus,
Bishops
2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5
Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday

JANUARY 27
Weekday
Heb 10:11-18
Mk 4:1-20

Thursday

JANUARY 28
St. Thomas Aquinas,
Priest and Doctor
of the Church
Heb 10:19-25
Mk 4:21-25

Friday

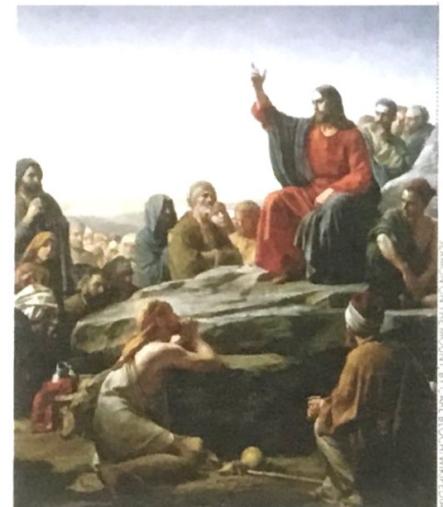
JANUARY 29
Weekday
Heb 10:32-39
Mk 4:26-34

Saturday

JANUARY 30
Weekday
Heb 11:1-2, 8-19
Mk 4:35-41

Sunday

JANUARY 31
Fourth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
Dt 18:15-20
1 Cor 7:32-35
Mk 1:21-28



Our Parish COMMUNITY

January 24, 2021

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Jon 3:1-5, 10

1 Cor 7:29-31

Mk 1:14-20

The Fish That Didn’t Get Away

We have all heard stories about the extraordinary fish that got away. We might even have such a story of our own. Two of today’s readings are fish stories, but with a slight twist. They are also “call narratives.” Last week we reflected on the call to listen and to follow; this week it is a call to go out to bring God’s mercy to others. This is a call to “catch” others, as one might catch fish—a metaphor that would have delighted fisher people.

In the beginning of the Jonah story, the prophet did not catch fish; one caught him. Later, the word he preached was very successful, his own spitefulness notwithstanding. The Ninevites were the sworn enemies of the Israelites, and Jonah did not want them to repent, but to be punished by God. Nevertheless, God’s mercy was stronger than Jonah’s spite. In the Gospel, Jesus calls his followers to set down their fishing nets and to launch into a life of catching people

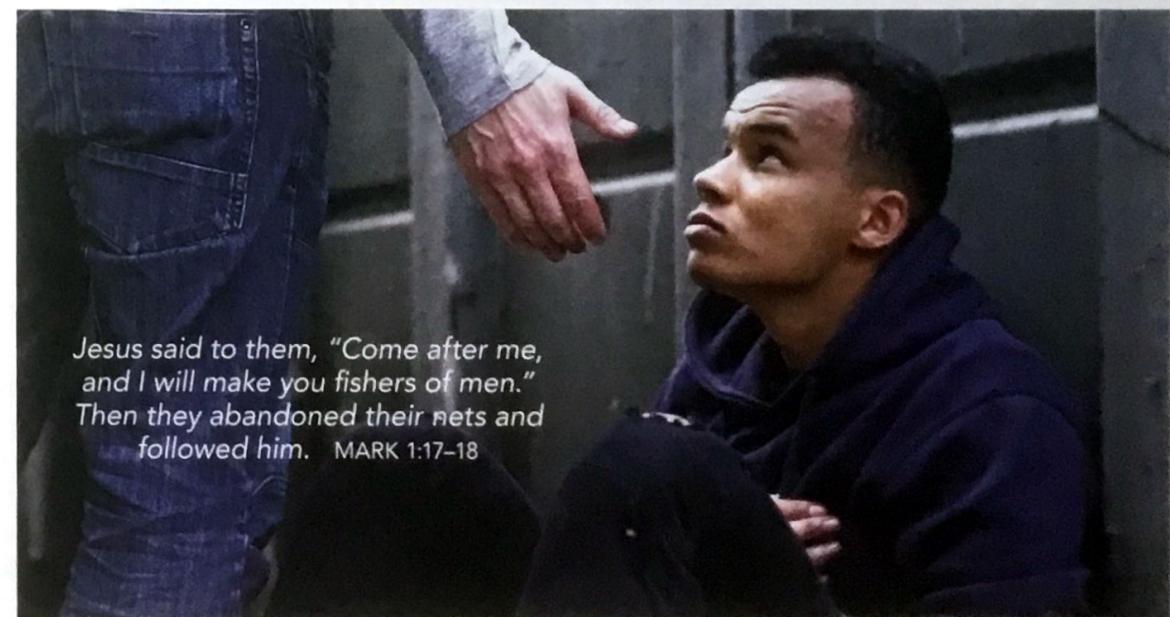
with the word of God. There is an eagerness here that is absent in the Jonah story. Furthermore, the disciples left their primary commitment—their patriarchal family—to accept Jesus’ invitation.

As Pope Francis declared, we are all missionary disciples. Are we eager to respond, as were Jesus’ disciples? Or do we think we should attend only to those whom we judge to be deserving? If so, have we forgotten that no one deserves God’s mercy? It is a free gift to all.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- * In what ways does your manner of living proclaim the mercy of God?
- * Pray that you might realize these ways if you do not already.



Jesus said to them, “Come after me,
and I will make you fishers of men.”
Then they abandoned their nets and
followed him. MARK 1:17-18



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600 Soderberg St. Lakin, KS 67860
Mailing Address: PO Box 983
Fr. Peter Tran, Pastor—355-6405
Tuesday—Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Email: saintanthonylakin@gmail.com
Website: saintanthonylakin.org

January 23, 4:00 p.m.	Tom Bachman
January 24, 9:00 a.m.	Mike Broeckelman
January 30, 4:00 p.m.	Karen Burden
January 31, 9:00 a.m.	Julie Kaps
February 6, 4:00 p.m.	Gwen Waechter
February 7, 9:00 a.m.	K of C Member
February 13, 4:00 p.m.	Debbie Frederick
February 14, 9:00 a.m.	Steve Sullivan
February 20, 4:00 p.m.	Tom Bachman
February 21, 9:00 a.m.	Mike Broeckelman
February 27, 4:00 p.m.	Karen Burden
February 28, 9:00 a.m.	Julie Kaps

Louise Miller, Bookkeeper	jingles@pld.com
Molly Shelden DRE	451-0548
RCIA	355-6405
Gwen Waechter, Parish Council Chair	272-1030
Tressa Powers, Finance Council Chair	355-6206
Altar Society President, Nanette Rice	355-7676
Tom Bachman, Grand Knight	640-8259
Prayer Line Starters, Allison Bushek	355-1696
& Nanette Rice	355-7676

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Jan. 25	8:00 a.m.	
Tuesday, Jan. 26	8:00 a.m.	Rosina Rau
Thursday, Jan. 28	8:00 a.m.	
Friday, Jan. 29	8:00 a.m.	For Rain-Moisture
Saturday, Jan. 30	4:00 p.m.	For the People
Sunday, Jan. 31	9:00 a.m.	For health-Regina Powell

Reconciliation: Confessions will be heard every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. or by appointment.

Baptism: Parents who have children to be baptized must be registered. Godparents must be 16 years of age or older and have received Confirmation and Eucharist. Please call the parish office for an appointment.

Marriage: Please contact parish priest at least six months before the wedding.

Anointing of the Sick: Celebrated anytime by calling a priest.



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—JANUARY 24, 2021

My friends, greetings in the Lord on this third Sunday in the ordinary time. Friends, I feel sorry a lot. Yes, I feel sorry a lot.

I'm so glad we have a God who forgives. I need that forgiveness as much as you do and maybe more. And you know what? A week later --- I'm doing the same things all over again. And it drives me crazy. What gives? Why do I do the same things over and over again?

We all have different personalities and abilities and wants. We all have different life experiences. We all struggle with different things and different temptations and different desires and different fears. And we all respond to these things in different ways. And so, trying to figure out exactly how all of these things interact with each other within each human heart is an impossible task. That's why we leave the judging to God.

Sometimes, we fool ourselves into believing that repentance is simply “being sorry.” And truthfully --- it’s pretty easy being sorry. Most of us are probably sorry for something nearly every day --- an action, a comment, an attitude. Yet, just “feeling sorry” demands absolutely nothing from us. It’s just a step in a process --- a tiny first step. The biggest step comes next --- the step that requires us to truly want to change, truly want to be different, truly want to be better. And without this big step --- this leap of faith, this giving in to God’s will over ours --- we will simply find ourselves right where we started --- doing the same regrettable things over and over and over again. In today’s gospel (Mark 1:14-20) we see Jesus traveling around Galilee proclaiming to the people, “The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the gospel.”

God doesn’t want us to remain the same. God doesn’t want us doing the same harmful or unhealthy things over and over and over and over again. He wants so much more for us. He wants a better life for us. And he wants us to have a more positive impact on the world around us. Put simply --- he doesn’t want us to just be sorry. He wants us to repent. And he wants us to follow. And nothing need ever be the same again.

May God bless and keep you and your family members safe and healthy! Fr. Peter Tran

COLLECTION for January 17, 2021: Envelopes: \$290.00; Loose: \$627.00; Online Giving: \$440.00; Total \$1,357.97; Average Weekly Expense: \$1,989.55. Income over/under (- 631.58) *Thank you so much to our faithful stewards for supporting our parish, diocese, and worldwide Church.*

UP-COMING MEETINGS: Pastoral Council: February 3 at 5:30 p.m.; K of C: February 3 at 7:30 p.m.; Finance Council: February 2 at 5:30 p.m. All meetings will be held at Parish Hall. If you have any request or concern or would like to attend those meetings, please let the members know. You are all invited!

JANUARY CLASSES –CONFIRMATION & FIRST COMMUNION

Confirmation: January 24, & 31 — First Communion: January 27

Please keep our First Communion and Confirmation students, their parents, and their catechists in your prayers for their safety and perseverance in faith.

PRAAYER LINE REQUESTS: Anytime you need a prayer request for someone. Please call Allison Burshek at 355-1696 or Nanette Rice 355-7676.

DIOCESAN CATHOLIC CHARITIES Struggling to provide food for yourself or your family? Catholic Charities staff members are available to help with the application for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP Food Assistance). Call 620-272-0010.

YUMMY BIEROCKS FOR SALE K of C Members will be making their mouthwatering bierocks again on February 14th this year. They will be ready for pick up on that Sunday at the MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMON AREA. Price is \$25.00 a dozen. If interested, you may call any K of C member or sign a list in the back of the church.

VOCATION VIEW Just as the first apostles were called by the Lord to become fishers of men, during this Catholic Schools Week we remember that the role of our schools is to challenge young men and women to follow Christ. (Mk 1:17)

STEWARSHIP THOUGHT There is a certain urgency in today's Gospel as Jesus calls His first disciples – Andrew, and Simon, James and John. Each one follows Jesus immediately, unhesitatingly abandoning nets and boats and father and fellow-workers. To what is Jesus calling me – at this moment, in these circumstances? What will I need to abandon in order to follow Him?

PRAAYER OF THE WEEK (by St. Charles de Foucauld) Father, I abandon myself into your hands; do with me what you will. Whatever you may do, I thank you: I am ready for all, I accept all. Let only your will be done in me and in all your creatures – I wish no more than this, O Lord. Into your hands I commend my soul; I offer it to you with all the love of my heart, for I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself, to surrender myself into your hands without reserve and with boundless confidence, for you are my Father. Amen.

UNDERSTANDING THE GOSPEL OF THE WEEK (Mark 1: 14-20)

Time of fulfillment Jesus and his fellow Jews longed for the day when all people everywhere would trust in and obey God. Jesus declares that this day is beginning right now through his ministry. All that God promised his people is now theirs if they turn toward this good news. This is the full meaning of repent: to stop sinning and enter into a new relationship with God who is acting through Jesus.

Looming shadow In this Gospel there is a threatening undercurrent to Jesus' ministry. John the Baptist has been arrested. John proclaimed what is now being fulfilled. If John was arrested while doing God's will, what will happen to Jesus?

Saved from the sea In the ancient Mediterranean world the sea symbolized danger and death. Violent storms could kill fishermen, and monsters lurked in the sea's dark depths. While fish belong in the sea, people do not. Jesus calls disciples to help him draw people out of the sea of death and into their true and eternal home.

Netting a new family Jesus' first disciples respond instantly to his command to follow him. Normally disciples chose their master, not vice versa. The story emphasizes the unusual authority with which Jesus acts. This authority will be questioned throughout Mark's Gospel, but here it is unreservedly obeyed. These four disciples are the first members of the new family that Jesus is forming. This new family is united not by common ancestry but by faith in Jesus. This is the beginning of God's reign. Jesus calls disciples to help him "net" more people into this family.

<https://oursundayreadings.com>

TEACH US TO HEAR YOUR VOICE, LORD

When it comes to helping us make difficult decisions, God speaks to us in a variety of ways: It might be as you read a particular Scripture passage or as the words from a homily or a hymn at Mass strike you in a new way.

- It might be as the Spirit helps you see a situation from a more godly perspective. This new perspective influences you and helps you make a better decision.
- It might be as the Spirit shows you how a certain pattern of sin—maybe greed, pride, jealousy, or resentment—is influencing your decision. He always wants to help you ask forgiveness and move on in faith.
- One of the most prominent signs that God is speaking is that you feel a deep sense of joy, peace, or hope as you consider one of your options. You may still have some concerns or anxiety, but you still feel in your heart that God is moving you. No matter how he speaks to us, God wants to help us make good and constructive decisions in every circumstance. The more we ask him to show us his will before we decide, the better our decisions will be.
(The word among us)

PRAAYER FOR PREGNANT MOTHERS O Blessed Mother, you received the good news of the incarnation of Christ, your Son, with faith and trust. Grant your protection to all pregnant mothers facing difficulties. Guide us as we strive to make our parish communities places of welcome and assistance for mothers in need. Help us become instruments of God's love and compassion. Mary, Mother of the Church, graciously help us build a culture of life and a civilization of love, together with all people of good will, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life. Amen. (USCCB-ProLife)

Follow a few simple steps to achieve some very achievable goals this year.

You wouldn't accomplish much in a day if, every morning, you got into your car and drove away—without a destination in mind. Likewise, it isn't productive to just wander down the road of marriage and family life. You're far more likely to get where you want to go when you target goals and adopt strategies to achieve them.

Numerous studies show that people who plan specific, reasonable, and challenging goals are more likely to succeed than people who have only a vague sense of direction. This is as true in married life as it is in the business world. Yet I find that many parents who are business professionals—people who plan, set budgets, and periodically evaluate their progress at work—do not use these successful techniques in their homes.

Why do goal-setting couples normally enjoy greater success in their marriage and family life? Because planners have concrete objectives that they can envision and pursue. They are more apt to make wise decisions that further their goals. Non-planners lack vision and are more easily side-tracked. Furthermore, a family plan facilitates growth and minimizes the need for crisis management.

Setting a Course. My wife Felicia and I have experienced the benefits of goal-setting for over thirty years. At the start of each new year, we pinpoint areas that we especially want to work on: two areas in our own relationship, plus two areas each for children.

With our four older children, who are now adults and on their own, we have come to play more of a “coach” role. But we still feel a genuine responsibility to help them determine their own goals and encourage them in their marriages, their personal and professional development, and their relationship with Jesus.

While goal-setting has not made us into the perfect family, we have found it an important tool for building our life together. It encourages us to seek God's plan, builds a sense of partnership and teamwork, and brings fruitful results.

As this new year begins, then, I encourage you to sit down with your family and formulate a plan. By following just a few simple steps, you can set and pursue some very achievable goals for 2017.

The Seven Steps

1. Invite each family member to take a week to think about and write down two particular goals they would like to implement. Explain that these goals should enhance the person's individual development, build up their relationship with Jesus, or improve family relationships.

For example, a spouse might want to focus on the household budget, develop better family traditions, or find ways to bring more fun and intimacy into their marriage. Children's goals might target some of the areas where we have set goals with our children over the years: school performance, honesty, hard work, sports, friendships, shyness, skill development.

2. Set a couple of dates when you can compare your lists. Choose a place where you won't be interrupted, and allow enough time for discussion.

Spouses should meet first to set their marriage goals and discuss their thoughts about the children. Then, get together with the whole family. (You can also meet individually, if a situation is sensitive or requires more privacy.)

Give the children a chance to express their two goals for the year. You may be surprised. About 50 percent of the time, my children have targeted the very areas that Felicia and I felt they needed to address.

3. At your family planning session, go through the items on your individual lists. Take turns presenting your goals and explaining the reasons why each one appears on your list. Listen carefully and respectfully to every family member's ideas, explanations, and positions. Men's and women's goals can differ quite a bit. These differences need to be respected—even cherished.

Now, select two goals per child to implement in the next year. In this process, each family member should be given veto power and the freedom to exercise it. Plans will come to nothing unless there is agreement; parents and child must be able to commit to a goal, or it will not be achieved. But each child must have two goals to work on at the meeting's end. You can't veto everything!

4. Each goal needs an action plan—an outline of the measures to be taken for realizing it. What will you do? When? How often? Where? What will it cost? Who will do what? Think it through and get as specific as you can. The clearer you are, the better. After all, you may have to restate the plan over and over again in the coming year. This has certainly been true for me.

5. Once you've agreed on the whats and hows, it's time to draw up a master list. Put your goals down on paper, along with the action plan. Spell out each individual goal as clearly as possible, and make sure not to undertake too much.

6. Monitor your plan periodically. Felicia and I evaluate our goals together every month or two. As circumstances require, we modify them. Occasionally we have also scrapped plans that were not working out the way we had hoped.

7. Celebrate your successes. By the end of the year, I hope it will be possible for you to say, “We did it!” Whenever you achieve a goal, congratulate one another on a job well done. Before you know it, it will be 2018—time to set some new goals.

Now is the time to prepare for future success. This new year, why not resolve to follow this seven-step plan to a better marriage and family life? Ask the Lord for wisdom, and set some attainable goals for your life, marriage, and family. As Scripture tells us, we can use our minds to make good plans, trusting that the Lord is with us and directs our steps (Proverbs 16:9). (Joe Difato—The Word among us)

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CELEBRATE, STUDY, SHARE

The timing seemed right. In September 2019, on the 1,600th anniversary of scripture scholar Saint Jerome's death, Pope Francis launched a new observance on the church calendar. Today's “Sunday of the Word of God” is deliberately placed within the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. All who follow Jesus are invited to unite around the happy gift of our sacred story contained in the Bible's pages. On this occasion, we celebrate, study, and spread these good words we never possess merely for ourselves. Enthrone the Bible in your home—and heart. (Prepare the Word)

TERCER DIMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO CELEBRAR, ESTUDIAR, COMPARTIR

El momento parecía adecuado. En septiembre de 2019, en el 1600 aniversario de la muerte de San Jerónimo, el erudito de las escrituras, el Papa Francisco introdujo una nueva observancia en el calendario de la iglesia. El "Domingo de la Palabra de Dios" de hoy está ubicado deliberadamente dentro de la Semana de Oración por la Unidad Cristiana. Todos los que siguen a Jesús están invitados a unirse en torno al feliz legado de nuestra historia sagrada contenida en las páginas de la Biblia. En esta ocasión, celebramos, estudiamos y difundimos estas buenas palabras que nunca adquirimos sólo para nosotros. Entroniza la Biblia en tu hogar —y en tu corazón.